



NEWS RELEASE

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NURSING CAREER GETS A BOOSTER SHOT

Women's Commission coordinates local mentoring program

The Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission (LLWC) is pleased to be a participating organization in an innovative and exciting multi-regional demonstration project of the U.S. Department of Labor Women's Bureau, designed to encourage young people, ages 15-21, to explore and choose careers in nursing.

The project was selected because nursing is experiencing a critical shortage in the state of Nebraska. The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates there will be one million job openings for registered nurses by 2010.

Group E-Mentoring in Nursing (GEM-Nursing) is a partnership of LLWC and Region VII Women's Bureau. The project will provide young women and men with the following resources:

A Daily Digest – a national listserv will create a Daily Digest allowing participating young people to ask nursing education and career-related questions. Volunteer nurse mentors respond to the questions that cover a wide variety of topics pertinent to nursing careers. All questions and answers are reviewed for appropriateness before being posted.

GEM-Nursing Website – the website www.GEM-Nursing.org provides biographical information about mentors, highlight nursing careers, provide scholarship and financial aid information, present voluntary quiz activities to stimulate and strengthen student's knowledge, and showcase an archive of the Daily Digests.

If you are between the ages of 15 and 21 and are interested in learning more about nursing careers by being a part of the GEM-Nursing online mentoring project, or if you are in the nursing field and would like to become an online mentor, call the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission at 441-7716 for an application form.

Established in 1976, the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission is a city/county agency working to educate and inform elected officials, policy makers and the public about the issues that have an impact on women's lives, and to work towards women's full participation in those issues.